

# Redbridge Environmental Action Plan (REAct)

2010 to 2018

## Part A - The Strategy



Revised April 2013



# Redbridge

***“A Cleaner, Greener and more Sustainable place”***



# Foreword

In Redbridge, we believe that sustainability should be at the heart of planning for the future. We understand that protecting and maintaining the environment, both locally and globally, preserves the health, happiness and prosperity of our residents now and for the future.

At Redbridge Council, we believe that the key to success is working together. That is why the key organisations in the Borough have produced an over-arching Redbridge Environmental Action Plan (REAct) as a way of maintaining and improving our environment. Together, we strive for a cleaner, greener Redbridge and to tackle our biggest environmental challenge, climate change. Over time we will ensure that responding to climate change is embedded in all services.

Our diverse communities make Redbridge a vibrant and thriving place to live. Involving the community in the development of REAct was key and we are proud of what we have accomplished through the creation of a joint Environmental Action Plan for the Borough.

Since 2010, we have worked hard to fulfil the objectives in this strategy. We succeeded in meeting our 12-month targets in all five areas of the REAct document. In this updated version we have included new targets, to ensure that Redbridge Council and our partners continue to achieve a cleaner, greener Redbridge.

**Councillor Shoaib Patel**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment, Transportation and Crime**



**Councillor Shoaib Patel**  
**Cabinet Member**  
**for Environment ,**  
**Transportation and**  
**Crime**

# Valentines Mansion



# Contents

## Introduction page 6

## Sustainable Buildings and Transport page 8

Sustainable buildings	8
Sustainable transport	10
Sustainability and our partners	11

## Climate Change page 12

The Borough's carbon emissions	14
Carbon reduction in the Council	15
Carbon reduction and our partners	16
Climate change adaptation	17

## Natural Environment and Heritage page 18

Nature conservation and Redbridge	18
Nature conservation and planning	20
Nature conservation and our partners	20
Historic conservation	21

## Waste and Recycling, Clean Streets and Pollution page 22

Waste and recycling	22
Clean streets	24
Pollution	24
The work of our partners	25

## Partnerships and Communication page 26

Partnerships	26
The Council and the community	28
Communication	29

## Acronyms page 30

## Further information and contact details page 31

# Introduction

The environment is important to all of us. Every aspect of modern life, from the way we travel and the food we eat to the way we build our homes or run our businesses, can have an impact on the environment. Meeting our own needs without harming the environment now or for future generations is what it means to be 'sustainable'.

It is possible to measure how sustainable we are in Redbridge. The 'ecological footprint' is a measure of how much of the planet – how much land and sea - is needed to provide the energy, food and materials we use in Redbridge, and how much land is required to absorb our waste. Redbridge's ecological footprint is 4.34 global hectares per person, (compared to a world average of 2.2) but the limit for sustainable living is 1.8 global hectares per person. This means that if everyone on the planet lived as we do in Redbridge, we would need three Planet Earths to support us: ultimately, this is not sustainable.

The Council and its partners recognise the importance of 'one planet living' and the need to make Redbridge a more sustainable borough. In 2008, the Redbridge Strategic Partnership produced the Redbridge Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), which sets out how the Council and its partners will work together to make Redbridge a safer, cleaner and greener place, where people are proud to live, work and invest, and a place that is caring, vibrant and healthy.

From the SCS, a more detailed Redbridge Environmental Action Plan (REAct) has been developed, setting out how the Council and its partners will achieve a cleaner, greener and more sustainable Redbridge. It includes key environmental aims and targets and how we will work together to meet them.

**If everyone on the planet lived as we do in Redbridge, we would need three Planet Earths**



## A Borough-wide strategy

REAct reflects the environmental priorities of the Council and key organisations in the Borough, including NHS Redbridge; Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust; London Fire Brigade; Metropolitan Police Service; Environment Agency and Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service. A single, comprehensive strategy for the entire Borough allows us to be focused, efficient and coordinated in tackling environmental issues. Like other services, addressing sustainability is about delivering high quality public services through successful partnerships.

## 5 areas

REAct is divided into five key areas:

1. Sustainable Buildings and Transport

2. Climate Change

3. Natural Environment and Heritage

4. Waste and Recycling, Clean Streets and Pollution

5. Partnerships and Communication

## 2 parts

REAct is divided into Part A and Part B. Part A is the strategy, describing why and how Redbridge intends to maintain and improve its environment from 2010 to 2018. Part A describes the reasoning behind the five key areas and highlights the main targets and aspirations. Part B is the Action Plan and lists the actions to be undertaken to achieve the aims of the strategy. Part B is regularly monitored and progress reports produced. To view Part B - The Action Plan - please contact the Environment Team at Redbridge Council (contact details on page 31).

## 1 goal

REAct has a simple aim: to maintain and improve the environment and to make sure that Redbridge meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. As a Borough-wide strategy, it promotes joint and efficient working to ensure the environment remains a top priority in Redbridge.

# 1. Sustainable Buildings and Transport

Sustainability is central when planning for future development in the Borough. Redbridge Council was the first Local Authority in London to have its Local Development Framework (LDF) adopted, a plan that sets out the spatial vision for the Borough from 2007 to 2017. The LDF promotes a sustainable pattern of development, in which new development is directed towards previously developed land rather than green space and located near services and facilities, for example near public transport hubs (to reduce the need to use private vehicles) and within town centres.

## Sustainable buildings

The Council requires all new buildings (including its own) to achieve high levels of sustainable design and construction. Government targets aim for all new homes to be zero carbon by 2016 and all non-domestic buildings to be zero carbon by 2019. This will require ever improving performance against the Government's environmental assessment methods. The Council is committed to achieving these higher standards and is investigating increasing the Council's minimum requirements ahead of Government timeframes.

For all new development the Council also seeks developers to provide on-site renewable energy. Energy efficiency and renewable energy is also promoted to existing householders.

Redbridge was one of the first London boroughs to be involved in a Decentralised Energy Master Planning (DEMaP) programme, in close partnership with the London Development Agency. Decentralised energy is a much more efficient way to supply heat and electricity, with lower carbon emissions.

As part of this, five areas have been identified in the Borough which may be suitable for a decentralised energy network. Our partners were closely involved in the project and will continue to be so. The next stage is undertaking detailed feasibility studies for specific sites in the Borough.

Developing sustainably also means reducing the risk of flooding. All developments are required to manage flood risk where possible, which may include flood resilience, flood resistance, sequential design, flood storage or sustainable drainage systems (SUDS).

In 2010, the Council is updating its Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to provide specific guidance and to ensure that sustainability continues to play an important role in the growth and development of Redbridge.

# TARGETS

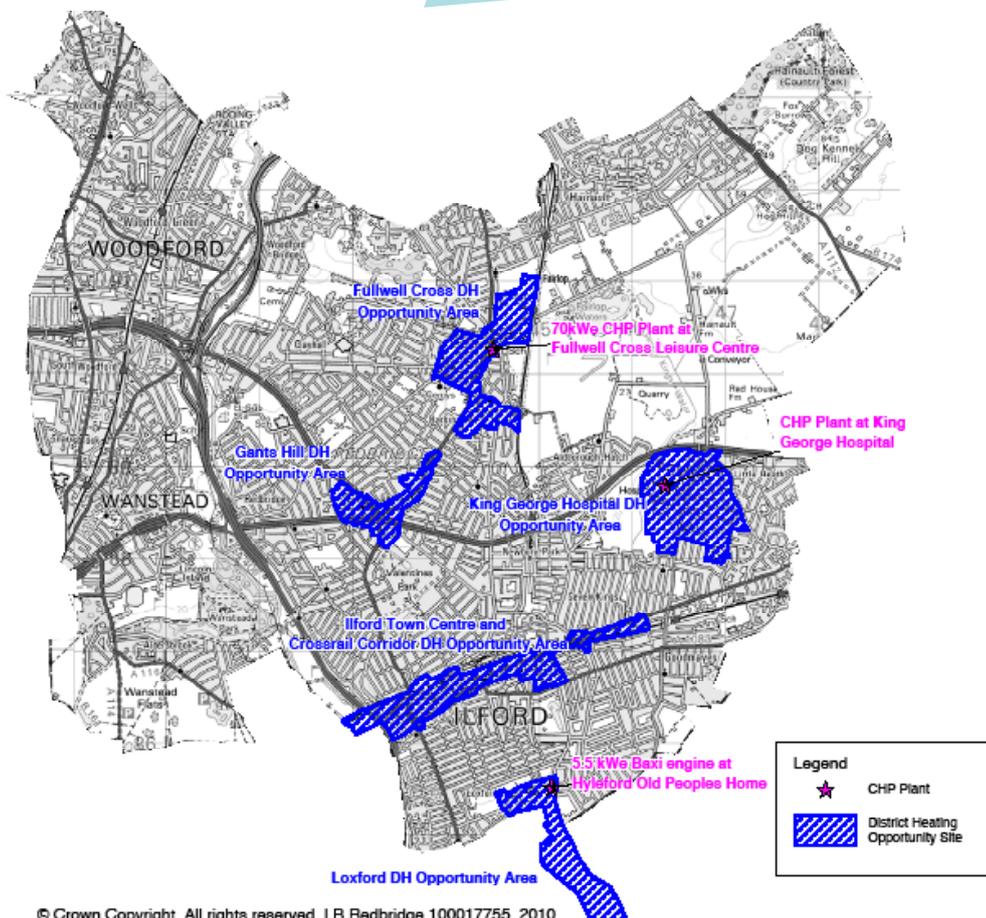
## In the next 12 months:

- Carry out a Sustainability Assessment of the draft Local Plan to ensure future growth is balanced.
- Expand the Borough's Greenway and local cycle network.
- Detailed feasibility, including techno-economic modelling, for at least one of Redbridge's decentralised energy opportunity sites.
- Introduce a Sustainable Urban Drainage Approval Body for major applications.
- Complete the Biking Borough trial in Snaresbrook and South Woodford.
- Set up a Bike Recycling Centre in the Borough

## By 2018:

- All new homes zero carbon from 2016 and non-domestic buildings zero carbon from 2019.
- Enhance the local cycle network and roll out the Biking Borough initiative throughout Redbridge.
- Introduce pool bikes and cargo bikes in all Council offices.
- Implementation of various actions to assist pedestrians and encourage walking as described in the Council's walking strategy.

**Redbridge was one of the first London boroughs to participate in the Decentralised Energy Master Planning programme. Five District Heating opportunity areas were identified.**



## Sustainable transport

Travelling in a sustainable or 'green' way – walking, cycling or using public transport – is better for the environment than driving, and often a cheaper alternative too. The air is cleaner, helping to tackle climate change (see Section 2), and walking and cycling also have health benefits. Redbridge Council and its partners are finding new ways to encourage staff and residents to travel less by car and to travel in a sustainable way.

Redbridge has been designated a Biking Borough and has developed a Cycling Strategy showing how cycling will be promoted and improved in Redbridge. The Cycling Strategy is aligned with the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy to achieve a 400% increase in cycling by 2020 (from 2000 base levels). Redbridge is looking into a number of cycling initiatives, including Greenways and Cycling Hubs, and will be working with the Olympic Development Agency to create a cross Borough cycle route to the Olympic Village in Stratford.



*Roding Primary School Summer Cycle Day*

Redbridge was one of the first London Boroughs to have a green travel plan for every school.

Redbridge was one of the first London Boroughs to have a Green Travel Plan for every school. We are improving sustainable transport, including works to improve surface pedestrian and cycle crossings at Gants Hill roundabout.

Preparations for the new rail line, Crossrail, have already begun and Redbridge is advanced in promoting sustainable transport opportunities within the Crossrail Corridor, such as new homes, businesses and community facilities close to the proposed Crossrail stations, and improvements to the walking and cycling networks within the Corridor.



*Ilford Jewish Primary School Walking Bus*



**Loxford Polyclinic- Winner of 'Best Built Project' at 2010 London Planning Awards; the assessment included environmental considerations.**

**NHS Redbridge's rationalising and transforming of new building stock, as part of their Estate Strategy, will be the largest single factor in reducing their CO2 emissions.**

### Sustainability and our partners

Our partner organisations are as committed to sustainable building and transport as we are. NHS Redbridge requires that all new buildings achieve excellent standards of environmental efficiency. NHS Redbridge's transformation of new building stock, as part of their Estate Strategy, will be the largest single factor in reducing their CO2 emissions. As part of this strategy, Loxford Polyclinic opened in June 2009 and the building won 'Best Built Project: Community Scale Scheme' at the 2010 London Planning Awards, the assessment of which included environmental considerations. Four more polyclinics are planned for Redbridge, which will aspire to achieve similar levels of sustainable design.

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) has an Environmental Strategy containing various sustainability actions, including designing and implementing local Sustainable Travel Plans for travel to and from work and for operational travel. The MPS has trialed a number of alternatively fueled vehicles, including four EV Smart cars and 100 Hybrid vehicles. The MPS has also set limits for the vehicle fleet to an engine size of 1.4 litres or lower.

The London Fire Brigade (LFB) has a Sustainable Development Strategy that addresses everything from sustainable design and construction to waste and recycling, and the three stations in Redbridge (Ilford, Hainault and Woodford) are committed to this strategy.

## 2. Climate Change

Climate change is one of the most significant environmental threats facing the world today. This section brings together two key elements of climate change:

1. Reducing the extent of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Adapting to the impacts of climate change.

The impacts of climate change have the potential to affect the way we live and threaten the natural, social, and economic environment.

The Climate Change Act (2008) has a UK wide greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 34% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 (both on 1990 levels). London has a crucial role to play and the Mayor of London's Draft Climate Change Mitigation and Energy Strategy has a target to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions by 60% by 2025

(1990 baseline). Redbridge has its own responsibility to reduce its carbon emissions and to also ensure that it successfully adapts to the impacts of climate change.

There are three key ways in which we at Redbridge Council work with the community and partners to lower carbon emissions and help combat climate change:

1. Through the planning process (see Section 1 – Sustainable Buildings and Transport).
2. Reducing carbon emissions through the Council's own activities and leading by example.
3. Interacting with and involving the wider community, and acting as a community leader.

### ***What is climate change?***

The phrase 'climate change' is used to describe the changes in global climate brought about by the increasing impact of the 'greenhouse effect'. The greenhouse effect occurs naturally: it involves a layer of gas around the Earth stopping some of the sun's rays from escaping. This keeps the Earth warm. However, through burning fuels, humans emit lots of greenhouse gas, such as Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), into the atmosphere. The build-up of these gases around the Earth stop more and more of the sun's rays from escaping, making the Earth warmer.

#### **This warming is likely to bring about:**

- higher sea levels
- less rain and more droughts
- water shortages
- higher temperatures and more heatwaves
- loss of wildlife, as habitats are destroyed
- more extreme weather events, such as heavy rainfall

Not all impacts will happen everywhere, but several are likely to affect your life in some way.

# TARGETS

## In the next 12 months:

- Cabinet approval of CO2 reduction target for the Council and the Borough.
- Investigate carbon budgets for each Council service area.
- Engage directly with at least 40 businesses through the Green Business Redbridge project. Aim for 10 businesses to receive a Green Business Award.
- Investigate securing ECO commitments for large scale energy efficiency projects within the borough.
- Install energy efficiency measures in 1800 homes through the RENEW2 project, saving a total of 650 tonnes CO2 / annum.
- Update the borough's air quality map and add an air quality GIS Layer to the corporate mapping server.

## By 2018:

- Implement any agreed carbon reduction targets for the Council and the Borough.
- All residents aware of energy efficiency measures and programmes for their home.
- Environmental behaviour change programmes for all schools in Redbridge.
- Embed planning for climate impacts across all Service Areas.
- NHS Redbridge to reduce CO2 by 10% by 2015 (2007 levels).
- BHRUT to reduce CO2 emissions by 30% by 2016 (2010 baseline).
- Introduce green walls and other measures to address air quality hot spots.



## The Borough's carbon emissions

The total carbon emissions for Redbridge is just over one million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Homes are responsible for over half (52%) of the Borough's emissions, with road transport responsible for 26% and industry and business for 22%.

Homes (mainly through gas and electricity use) are the highest contributor to the Borough's emissions. The Council can ensure new buildings are sustainable, but at least two thirds of homes in 2050 will still be the existing buildings we use today, many of which are not energy efficient. This means that reducing carbon emissions from existing buildings has a clear and important role to play.

Through projects, events, the media and our partners we raise awareness on climate change and encourage Redbridge residents, landlords and businesses to be energy efficient. Through grant programmes, such as London Warm Zone and RE:NEW, we help residents to achieve energy efficiency changes to their homes, save them money on their energy bills and help combat fuel poverty in the Borough.

An innovative refurbishment project, 'Greening Homes for Redbridge', led by housing association East Thames Group, improved the water and energy efficiency of 20 vacant homes in Redbridge. The homes benefited from a range of improvements including: smart meters to help residents monitor their energy use, cavity wall insulation, water-saving toilets, solar panels, and energy efficient lighting. Residents who moved into homes were given guidance on living sustainably and making the most of the green features in the home. One property achieved a 78% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, with an estimated saving of £1,036 on fuel bills every year.

Redbridge Council is looking at new and innovative ways to improve the energy efficiency of existing homes through the planning application process, which will be included in the Council's updated Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document.



A 'Greening Homes for Redbridge' project. Solar panels were one of the improvements implemented.



**In 2009 Redbridge Council was awarded the Green 500 Platinum Award for carbon reduction across the Council and was recognised as "leading the way in carbon reduction policy" with its LDF and cross-council environmental strategy, REAct.**

## Carbon reduction in the Council

Redbridge Council is committed to lowering its own carbon emissions. In 2008/09, the Council produced around 36,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, mainly from its buildings, transport and street lighting.

Redbridge Council has a target to reduce its carbon emissions by 4% by 2010/2011 from a 2008/09 baseline and a longer term aim of reducing carbon emissions by 27% by 2017 from a 2005 baseline.

The Council is legally obliged to participate in the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) to reduce the Council's energy use.

**The Council's six year energy and water conservation programme achieved an annual saving of £540,000 in 2008/09 as a result of reduced energy usage. The Council continues to benefit from these savings.**

Buildings are responsible for 71% of the Council's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, with over half of these emissions coming from school buildings. We recognise this as an important area and in 2007 joined the Mayor of London's Green 500 Programme, with a specific focus on our schools. Since then, we have undertaken an energy programme with a pilot school focused on the behaviour of staff and students, which we intend to implement in every school in the Borough.

The Council has signed up to the Mayor of London's Green Procurement Code. All major contracts or purchases made by the Council are assessed in terms of sustainability and carbon emissions.

Redbridge Council also encourages its staff to improve their environmental behaviour in the office. There are Environment Champions in every service area that improve the environmental performance of Council buildings and 'champion' good practice regarding energy, waste, recycling, water and transport. A future project for the Council will be lowering the use of the grey fleet (staff members' private vehicles) for meetings and site visits, in exchange for walking, cycling, using public transport or car clubs.



*Redbridge Council's Environment Champions promote their energy week*

## Carbon reduction and our partners

Our partners have made significant progress in lowering their carbon emissions and influencing others to do the same. Ilford Fire Station has achieved national acclaim for reducing its CO2 emissions by 40%, contributing to the London Fire Brigade's London-wide CO2 saving of 16% from 1990 levels (a £1.8 million energy saving). Ilford Fire Station made this saving by installing solar panels for electricity generation, an energy efficient boiler, thermostatic radiator valves, motion-sensor lighting, and a smoothing transformer. Reduced energy bills will mean the green technologies will pay for themselves.

The Fire Service has achieved the Carbon Trust standard, awarded for reducing its impact on climate change. The Redbridge Borough Commander will continue to work with the Brigade's Green Champions to identify any new areas for improvement.

NHS Redbridge launched their carbon reduction strategy in 2010, and they have a target to reduce CO2 emissions by 10% by 2015 (2007 levels). Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust (BHRUT) developed their Strategy on Sustainability during mid 2010 and are now working to develop key actions for facilities, travel, procurement, workforce and community within their Sustainable Development Programme.

**Ilford Fire Station has reduced its CO2 emissions by 40%, achieved through a variety of measures including installing solar panels, a new energy efficient boiler and an upgraded lighting system.**

### **Solar Panels at Ilford Fire Station**

**Richard Binder, Borough Commander London Borough of Redbridge, London Fire Brigade**





## Climate change adaptation

Redbridge understands that, while reducing CO2 is important, some impacts of climate change are still likely to happen and it is vital that the Borough is fully prepared to deal with these impacts. Redbridge has undertaken a Local Climate Impact Profile identifying weather events that the Borough has been vulnerable to in the past and what impact these events had on residents and businesses, and on our own service delivery. Following this, a risk assessment of potential impacts will be carried out and Council service areas and partners will work to ensure adaptation is incorporated into Borough wide service planning. We will continue to work together to develop a comprehensive adaptation strategy.

One of the impacts most likely to affect Redbridge is surface water flooding (caused by excessive rainfall). The Council has completed a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and works hard to reduce the risk of flooding in Redbridge through development control, protecting the floodplain, and maintaining green spaces within the Borough. We also encourage our residents not to pave over their gardens or, if they must, to use permeable paving to prevent flooding.

The Fire Brigade in Redbridge has regular meetings with the Council's Emergency Planning Department to discuss local disaster relief. Over the next few years, Redbridge will be delivering on its adaptation action plan to ensure that the Borough is prepared for any impacts that should arise.

# 3. Natural Environment and Heritage

## Nature conservation and Redbridge

Redbridge has some of London’s best areas for nature. These natural environments cover 38% of the Borough and include 35 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, half of which are actively preserved and enhanced by the Council (or ‘managed positively for nature conservation’). These areas cover and include sites designated nationally for their importance to wildlife, for example Epping Forest is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) .

Redbridge is committed to protecting and enhancing biodiversity within the Borough and has a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) that outlines how the Borough’s habitats and species are protected. The BAP covers a number of areas, including parks and open spaces, school grounds and woodlands.

Redbridge aims to increase the number of sites being managed positively for nature conservation by a minimum of 6% every year, and to also have three more sites designated as local nature reserves by 2014. Nature Conservation plays an important role in preparing for the impacts of climate change, otherwise known as climate change adaptation (see Section 2). Vegetated surfaces reduce the ‘urban heat island effect’<sup>1</sup> by providing shade and absorbing CO2. Plus, vegetated surfaces allow excess rain water to drain away, which prevents flooding. Climate change adaptation also provides opportunities for increasing biodiversity, river restoration and strategic tree planting. Nature Conservation also has many other benefits, including aesthetic value, supporting ecosystems and improving people’s health and well being.

<sup>1</sup> The ‘urban heat island effect’ refers to the warmer temperatures experienced in cities compared with the rural areas around them. The urban heat island is caused by the ability of buildings and roads to absorb heat from the sun, which is then radiated at night, preventing the city from cooling down as quickly as rural areas (London Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, Aug 2008).



*Wetland volunteer planting, part of managed re-alignment of flood bund*

# TARGETS

## In the next 12 months:

- Main country parks to be awarded EWGS or HLS stewardship.
- One extra park to join positive management scheme per year.
- 10,000 trees planted in the Borough's parks by the end of 2013.
- New outdoor classroom at Ray Park.
- Work to remove Wanstead Park from the 'Heritage at Risk Register.'

## By 2018:

- Three additional sites designated as Local Nature Reserves by 2014.
- At least 150 nature conservation volunteers (since 2010).
- Over 70% of sites in the borough managed positively for Nature Conservation.
- Three open spaces in the borough enhanced for amphibians by 2014.
- Great crested newt monitoring for Hog Hill.



Claybury Woods has recently received FSC certification for sustainable management.



## Nature conservation and planning

Redbridge Council is committed to improving biodiversity through the planning process. The Local Development Framework (LDF) includes a number of policies to protect and enhance open spaces and conserve biodiversity. The Nature Conservation Supplementary Planning Document provides further information to developers on the importance of good design and the protection of existing ecosystems in Redbridge to promote biodiversity.

## Nature conservation and our partners

Partnership working is essential in maintaining and improving the natural environment in Redbridge. Redbridge Council works closely with the Environment Agency to manage rivers and streams in the Borough, particularly in regards to flooding. A strategy is being produced by the Environment Agency to investigate options for managing flood risk in the River Roding catchment for the next 100 years.

The Redbridge Sustainability Forum (see page 28) believes preserving biodiversity is important and raises awareness of the negative impacts of paving over gardens and the benefits that a garden can bring.

The Council also works with a number of 'Friends Of' parks groups to improve parks for wildlife and to promote the use and importance of parks in the local community.

## Historic conservation

Redbridge contains a significant number of heritage buildings and structures, often set in natural surroundings. These include the former Claybury Hospital in Claybury Park and Valentines Mansion, located within Valentines Park. Adaptive re-use of such historic buildings often helps achieve broader nature conservation and leisure objectives. For example, through the conversion of the former Claybury Hospital (a listed building) to residential use, the Council was able to secure the transfer of 70 hectares of associated ancient and secondary woodlands to public ownership, representing the largest new public park created in London for over a century.

Whilst the Council is requiring greater energy efficiency in new buildings in order to reduce CO2 emissions, there is also a need to address the efficiency of existing buildings. Many of these existing buildings have also been identified as heritage assets in recognition of their historic significance, for example by being listed or located within Conservation Areas. The Council is working with its partners, such as English Heritage and private landowners, to ensure that the Borough's heritage assets remain in use and that the highest environmental performance is achieved within these assets whilst maintaining their historic significance and heritage values.



*Valentines Mansion*

## 4. Waste and Recycling, Clean Streets and Pollution

The waste and pollution we produce not only affects the environment as a whole, but our health and well being too. Redbridge residents believe that 'clean streets' is one of the most important factors in making somewhere a good place to live and Redbridge is committed to having cleaner streets, reducing waste and pollution, and improving recycling facilities for everyone.

### Waste and recycling

Sending large quantities of rubbish to landfill sites is not sustainable. It takes years for waste to decompose and greenhouse gases are produced in this process. Reducing, re-using and recycling waste is more sustainable and the Council works hard to raise awareness of these in the Borough.

Local authorities are required by National Government to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill by 40% by 2010, 45% by 2015, and 50% by 2020. Redbridge Council works closely with partners and residents to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and increase levels of recycling and composting in the Borough.

The Council is currently preparing a Waste Strategy detailing how the Council will recycle 40% of the Borough's waste by 2014/15 and 50% by 2020. In addition, the East London Waste Authority boroughs (Redbridge, Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Newham), are preparing a Joint Waste Development Plan Document to analyse current waste management in East London and identify sites for new waste management centres.

The Council is exceeding its household recycling targets. All houses and suitable flats in the Borough have kerbside recycling and green waste collection. In 2010/11 the Council will trial a residential cardboard collection scheme and also a blue box recycling scheme, solely for paper recycling. Every primary school and most secondary schools in the Borough have been visited to promote recycling.

The Council is committed to reducing its own waste, reusing where possible and increasing its recycling. All Council buildings have paper recycling, and mixed recycling (plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, and tin cans) is being introduced.



**In 2009/10, 31.54% of household waste in Redbridge was reused, recycled or composted, surpassing the Council's target of 27.5%.**

# TARGETS

## In the next 12 months:

- Develop a Redbridge Waste Strategy.
- Increase residential recycling by 2%, pending DCLG funding. (32.5% recycled in 2011/12).
- Increase recycling facilities in Council offices.
- Support and help expand community litter-pick schemes, such as Positive Change.
- Update the Redbridge Air Quality Action Plan.

## By 2018:

- LBR to recycle 40% of the Borough's residential waste by 2014/15.
- ELWA boroughs to divert 67% waste from landfill (through reusing/ recycling) by 2015/16.



## Clean streets

Redbridge residents feel that 'clean streets' is one of the most important factors in making somewhere a good place to live (Redbridge Place Survey 2008/09).

In February 2009, Redbridge Council started a series of 'Big Clean Up' operations throughout the Borough that tackle graffiti, fly tipping, excessive littering and untidy front gardens. Big Cleans typically remove 100 tonnes of rubbish from an area and involve engagement with local residents to raise awareness of recycling and also safety, thanks to partnership work with the local Police and Fire Service. In 2009/10 three Big Cleans were undertaken and the Council and its partners are aiming to continue the programme of Big Cleans throughout the Borough.

The Council is committed to reducing the amount of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting in the Borough and has set itself a number of stretch targets. The Cleansing Service aims to remove all fly-tipping within 24 hours of notification.

The Council has ten mobile CCTV cameras to identify those committing enviro-crimes, such as fly tipping. Seven cameras include number plate recognition technology. The Council is committed to using this footage to prosecute enviro-crime offenders and will continue to invest in mobile CCTV cameras.

## Pollution

Improving the quality of our land, water and air is an important part of ensuring the sustainability of the Borough and the health and well being of residents.

Redbridge is an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), and due to this has produced an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) that sets out how the Council intends to improve air quality in the Borough.

Most of the air pollution in London, including in Redbridge, is caused by road traffic. The Council is introducing measures to reduce both the pollution emitted from vehicles in the Borough and the amount of traffic on the roads (see Section 1 - Sustainable Buildings and Transport). The Council is also addressing pollution from non-road sources, including industrial activities and domestic heating.

Improving air quality and tackling pollution has important links to other aims within REAct. For example, reducing transport emissions helps combat climate change by reducing CO<sub>2</sub>, and maintaining vegetation through nature conservation reduces the amount of pollutants reaching waterways.



## The work of our partners

The Council's Cleansing Department works closely with a number of partners to tackle waste and pollution. The local Police and Fire Service are involved in Big Clean Up operations and the Metropolitan Police, Transport Police and Transport for London work together to increase prosecutions of graffiti offenders.

Our partners are also having great success in improving their own waste operations. The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) has set targets for the reduction of waste by 25% by 2013 (on 2009/10 levels) and the recovery of at least 60% of operational waste (incorporating reusing, recycling and energy recovery). The MPS currently recycles about 40 tonnes of police uniform, 20,000 tonnes of cooking oil into bio-diesel and over 4000 tonnes (48%) of office waste annually. In addition, £317,000 was saved during 2009/10 by redistributing furniture internally, and a resource swap shop has been set up where surplus stationary is redeployed, rather than purchasing new, saving over £10,000 in the first year.

In 2008/09, the London Fire Service recycled 44% of its waste and has a target to recycle 60% of its waste by 2011/12. They have recycling contracts in place for office waste, IT equipment, waste hoses, mobile phones, batteries and other electrical equipment.

NHS Redbridge has a new waste contract that commenced in June 2010 (initially for 2 years) with the aim of recycling up to 60% of waste produced.



**Big Clean Up operations**  
Working in partnership, Redbridge Council, the local Police and the local Fire Brigade ensure that hotspots across the Borough are cleared of fly tipping and rubbish, while residents are educated on household recycling, how to report enviro-crimes, and safety in the home.

## 5. Partnerships and Communication

A cleaner, greener and more sustainable Redbridge can only be achieved through effective and continuous partnership working between the Council, other public organisations, businesses, and voluntary and community groups. Equally as important is effectively communicating key environmental messages to all individuals and organisations in the Borough and providing everyone with a way to communicate their thoughts and ideas to us.

Successfully protecting and improving the environment, and tackling the global environmental threat of climate change, cannot be achieved without all partners working together.

### Partnerships

#### Redbridge Strategic Partnership

The Redbridge Strategic Partnership (RSP) brings together over 100 individual organisations, including public service providers, the voluntary and community sector and local businesses, to work together to achieve mutual aims for the benefit of Redbridge. The RSP developed the Redbridge Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), which sets out the vision for Redbridge over the next 10 years (2008 – 2018).

The SCS has an overarching priority of 'addressing climate change' and an ambition of 'promoting a positive attitude to the environment and having a cleaner greener Redbridge.' REAct is key in achieving these priorities and ambitions.

The Cleaner Greener Cluster of the RSP is responsible for driving forward the environmental priorities and ambitions of the SCS. The Cleaner Greener Cluster is represented by a number of partners, including:

- Redbridge Council
- Redbridge Police
- Redbridge Fire Brigade
- NHS Redbridge
- Redbridge Sustainability Forum
- Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service
- Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust



# TARGETS

## In the next 12 months:

- Maintain Redbridge as a Fairtrade Borough.
- Provide up to 10 grants for environmental projects that would not otherwise take place.
- Host the Cleaner Greener Cluster, React Officers Group and Sustainability Forum.
- Improve the use of Redbridge Life, Redbridge i and social media in raising the awareness of the environment in Redbridge.
- FFPG, with support from LBR, to hold three community environmental networking events.





## Communication

Effectively communicating clear, simple messages is important in raising awareness of environmental issues and why it is important for residents, businesses and other organisations to play their part in delivering a cleaner greener Redbridge. Too often, people are unaware that helping the environment can also benefit them in other ways, such as saving them money and improving their health and well being. The following are some of the important mechanisms we use to communicate these messages:

- Partnership networks with organisations operating throughout the Borough, such as Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service and LA21 groups.
- The Council's website, Redbridge i [www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk) - contains environment pages, community forums and a 'My Neighbourhood' section that provides residents with information specific to their area.
- The Council newspaper - Redbridge Life - includes a dedicated Cleaner, Greener Redbridge section in every issue.
- Publications, such as the Green Living Guide, which provides residents with helpful ideas and tips on how to reduce their carbon footprint and have a greener lifestyle. The guide is free to all Redbridge residents.

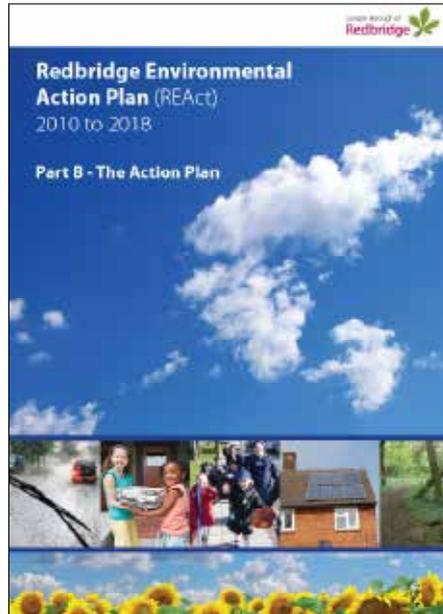


## Acronyms

AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BHRUT	Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust
BID	Business Improvement District
BREEAM	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
CRC	Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme
DEMaP	Decentralised Energy Masterplanning Programme
EA	Environment Agency
ELWA	East London Waste Authority
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
LA21	Local Agenda 21
LBR	London Borough of Redbridge
LDF	Local Development Framework
LFB	London Fire Brigade
MPS	Metropolitan Police Service
NHS Redbridge	The local Primary Care Trust
RCVS	Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service
REAct	Redbridge Environmental Action Plan
RSP	Redbridge Strategic Partnership
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCS	Sustainable Community Strategy
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SUDS	Sustainable Drainage System

## REAct - Part B

REAct contains part B - the Action Plan - which lists actions to be undertaken to achieve the aims of the Strategy. The Action Plan is updated annually. To view the Action Plan please contact the Environment Team using the details below.



## Further information and contact details

If you have any questions about the Redbridge Environmental Action Plan, would like to view Part B (the Action Plan), or require further information on the actions being undertaken by the Council or its partners, please contact the Council's Environment Team:

**Tel: 020 8554 5000**

**Email: [sustainability@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:sustainability@redbridge.gov.uk)**

Further information can also be obtained from the Council's website:

**[www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)**

Monday - Friday  
9.00am - 5.00pm

London Borough of  
**Redbridge**



For free translations phone

Për përkthime pa pagesë telefononi

هاتف الترجمة المجانية

फ़्री ट्रांसलेशन फ़ोन नंबर

Za besplatno telefon za prevod

對於免費翻譯電話

تورنگ نو فلٹ فریڈز ریڈ بریڈج اور ایس ڈی ایس

در صورت نیاز به ترجمه مجاني، لطفاً با شماره تلفن زیر تماس بگیرید:

020 8554 5000

020 8554 5000

भाविमुक्त अनुवाद के लिये, हम पर फोन करें

Mpo na telephone ofele ya kobongola na monoko mususu

Dël nemokamo vertimo skambinkite

Aby uzyskać bezpłatne tłumaczenie, prosimy zadzwonić na numer

Para obter uma tradução gratuita, ligue

Pentru traducere gratuită, sunați la

Перевод - бесплатно. Звоните

Za besplatni prijevod, nazovite

Turjumaad bilaash ah u soo wac

020 8554 5000

Ücretsiz bir tercüme için 'yı arayın

مفت ترجمے کے لیے فون کریں

Dịch thuật miễn phí xin gọi đến số máy

020 8554 5000

Fún àtùmò lèlẹ́ pẹ̀ èrò ibánjẹ̀tẹ̀

For large print or braille phone

**020 8554 5000**



Printed on 50% recycled paper

